

Message Text

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64

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CU-02

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7974

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SEDU

SUBJECT: GOE INTEREST SIGNING AN AGREEMENT TO RECOGNIZE AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY DEGREES

1. DEPUTY PRIMIN/MINISTER HIGHER EDUCATION HAFIZ GHANEM, APPROACHED ME TODAY TO EXPRESS HIS DESIRE TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH USG WHEREBY GOE RECOGNIZES ALL ACCREDITED AMERICAN UNIVERSITY DEGREES. HE NOTED THAT, BECAUSE OF ABSENCE SUCH AGREEMENT, EGYPTIAN STUDENTS STUDYING IN US ALWAYS HAVE DIFFICULTIES IN HAVING THEIR DEGREES ACCEPTED. MOST RECENT INSTANCE IS EGYPTIAN GRADUATE STUDENT WHO WAS AWARDED MASTER'S DEGREE IN ENGINEERING BY HARVARD UNIVERSITY, WHICH CAIRO UNIVERSITY REFUSED TO ACCEPT. WITH SOME 2000 EGYPTIAN STUDENTS NOW IN THE US, ACCORDING TO GHANEM, HANDLING SUCH MATTERS ON CASE BY CASE BASIS, AS IS CURRENTLY NECESSARY, IS CUMBERSOME AND CREATES GREAT PROBLEMS FOR MINISTRY AND STUDENTS. THESE COULD BE OBIATED IF SUCH AGREEMENT EXISTED BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE AND SIGN SUCH AGREEMENTS.

2. GHANEM DID NOT SPECIFICALLY SAY SO, BUT GOE WOULD PROBABLY ALSO LIKE SUCH AN AGREEMENT TO INCLUDE AGREEMENT BY AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES TO
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RECOGNIZE EGYPTIAN UNIVERSITY DEGREES. GIVEN

OUR UNIVERSITY STRUCTURE, I RECOGNIZE THAT THIS
MAY NOT BE FEASIBLE.

3. GHANEM STATED THAT GOE HAS SUCH AGREEMENT WITH
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AND IS CURRENTLY
NEGOTIATING A SIMILAR AGREEMENT WITH FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY.

4. PLEASE ADVISE WHAT WE MAY BE ABLE TO DO IN
THIS REGARD. SUBJECT MIGHT APPROPRIATELY BE
DISCUSSED, OR PERHAPS SUCH AN AGREEMENT SIGNED,
DURING A JANUARY MEETING OF JWG ON EDUCATION
AND CULTURE.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: woolflhd
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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